ISSN 0953 - 8720

B·W·I

STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED
JANUARY 27th, 1954

Founder:
P.T. SAUNDERS, FRPSL

President:
E.V. TOEG, FRPSL

Vice-Presidents:
J.B. MARRIOTT, CVO, FRPSL, RDP
P. JAFFÉ, FRPSL, RDP

BULLETIN No. 167 DECEMBER 1995

BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

Affiliated to the British Philatelic Federation

Hon. Secretary:	**MICHAEL B. NICHOLSON**
Hon. Treasurer:	**CRISTOPHER F. MAY**
Hon. Membership Secretary	**S.A.SHARP**
Hon. Editor:	**DENIS CHARLESWORTH**
Hon. Librarian:	**DEREK M. NATHAN**
Hon. Public Relations Officer	**PETER FORD**
Committee:	**S. GOLDBLATT, M. HAMILTON, D. MITTON & M. WILSON**
Hon. Auditor:	**J.A.C. FARMER,** *F.C.A.*
North American Representative:	**W. CLARY HOLT**

OBJECTS

1. **TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the islands that comprise the British West Indies and in addition BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA (GUYANA) and BRITISH HONDURAS (BELIZE) and the Postal History and markings of all other Caribbean territories during any period that they were under British administration or control, and those British Post Offices which operated in the Caribbean, and Central or South America.**
2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.
3. TO loan books from the Circle library **(home members only)**. Borrowers bear postage both ways. **List supplied upon application to Hon. Librarian accompanied by an s.a.e. (9" x 6½") - 2nd Class postage for 150gm rate required.**
4. TO publicist 'wants' and furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.
5. TO encourage, assist or sponsor the authorship and publication of definitive handbooks, monographs or other works of reference appropriate to the aim in para 1 above.

MEMBERSHIP&SUBSCRIPTION

MEMBERSHIP - Is WORLD WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be new or advanced collectors.

SUBSCRIPTIONS - The ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION is £7.50 for members residing in the UK or Europe and £10 for members who reside elsewhere.

Subscriptions (dues) are payable on 1st January each year and, subject to what is mentioned below, *in sterling* (by personal cheque or Standing Order drawn on a U.K. Bank, a Banker's Draft, International Money Order, Postal Order or local currency *notes* - no coins will be accepted - e.g. dollars, marks, francs etc.).

Members residing in North America (Canada, USA, and the Caribbean) who do not pay their Subscription (dues) in sterling should pay by sending to the North American Representative (see above for address) a cheque for USA $15 made payable to "BWISC". Other overseas members who pay their subscription by cheque drawn in a foreign currency or on a foreign bank MUST add the equivalent of £3 sterling partially to cover exchange and bank charges. The overseas rates quoted include an element to cover postage of the Bulletin by Air Mail.

IN THIS ISSUE

Programme		67
Congratulations - Sir John Marriott		68
The 1995 Leamington Convention	- *Michael Wilson*	68
Leamington Displays - Part 1		70
Additions to Library		71
Membership Listing		71
Antigua	- *Stella M. Pearse*	72
Dominica Award	- *Peter Ford*	73
For Sale		73
British Guiana - Two Cents on 5c - Variety	- *Michael B. Nicholson*	74
B.W.I. Perfins	- *Simon Goldblatt*	76
Barbuda - The Missing Year 'Slug'	- *Chris May*	77
More Manuscript Markings	- *Simon Goldblatt*	77
Hayling Island Meetings	- *Chris May*	79
British Virgin Islands	- *Peter Runge*	80
Montserrat	- *Chris Barwick*	81
Query - Trinidad & Tobago		81
Leeward Islands	- *Mike Spaven*	82
Leeward Islands KG.V 2d Flaw	- *Peter Fernbank*	83
Leeward Islands	- *Mike Spaven*	83
Jamaica - Camp Gibraltar Registration Label.	- *David Atkinson*	86
Rare Stamps of the World Show		87
B.W.I. Auction - No. 21		88
Around the Caribbean		90

PROGRAMME

1996

Saturday 27 January STAMPEX - The afternoon session - Speaker to be arranged.

Venue: The Business Design Centre,
52 Upper Street, Islington, London. N1 0QH.

Please note the new time of year and the new venue for "STAMPEX

Saturday 27 April 2.00 p.m. AGM followed by annual Auction.

Venue: The Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, London. WC 1

CONGRATULATIONS - Sir John Marriott

from the Court Circular of 29 July 1995:

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, July 27, 1995

Mr John Marriott was received by The Queen upon his retirement as Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection when Her Majesty conferred upon him the order of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order.

Your president has now written to Sir John Marriott on behalf of the members of the British West Indies Study Circle congratulating him and Lady Mary on the Knighthood conferred upon him by the Queen on his retirement as Keeper of the Royal Philatelic collection.

THE 1995 LEAMINGTON CONVENTION

Members began to gather for the Ninth Biennial Convention - the eighth to be held at the Regent Hotel in Leamington Spa - on the evening of Friday 6th October. Before the now traditional wine and cheese party had even begun, the enthusiasts had got together renewlng the friendships of past years, making new acquaintances and discussing the many aspects of their hobby.

The one sad note of the weekend was the absence of our President, Victor Toeg, who had been advised by his doctors not to attend as he was still not strong enough after his operation. Victor sent his best wishes to all present and at his request it was my privilege formally to open the Convention on the Saturday morning. On a happier note, it was a pleasure to see so many “other halves” attending the meeting - probably a record number.

As usual there were the dealers' tables together with the Study Circle's own sales table, which was once again so ably manned by Simon Goldblatt. It seemed that all were doing a brisk trade.

The first formal display was given by John Griffiths who showed his award-winning collection of Leeward Islands 1757 to 1902. In addition to various pre-stamp material he showed the early issues of all the islands which subsequently became the Leeward Islands colony, together with the first issues of Leewards themselves. On behalf of those present Mike Spaven formally thanked John Griffiths for the display.

An enjoyable buffet lunch along with liquid refreshment then followed.

The afternoon display was given by Geoffrey Osborn, who showed Bermuda Postal History. This varied and interesting display rounded off the formal proceedings and Dennis Mitten proposed a well deserved vote of thanks.

During the day several informal displays had been put up on the boards for the benefit of members: Barbados Military Mail, British Guiana returned letters, Leeward Islands flaws, St Vincent ship letters, Jamaica inland postage rates and Bahamas "return to sender" mail.

Our thanks go to the six members who brought these interesting exhibits along. On the other hand I do appeal to all members (including myself !) not to forget this important aspect of the Convention and to try to bring with them something to display in 1997.

In closing this account of the Convention, I must thank Simon Goldblatt for his indefatigable work on our behalf at the Members' Table, to Steve Sharp and his Stewards who kept an eye on our security during the day, to Steve Jarvis for ensuring that the timetable was kept and finally, but by no means least, to Michael Nicholson for all the hard work he put in behind the scenes on our behalf ensuring that we could all enjoy the weekend.

See you at our next Convention in 1997.

Michael Wilson

LEAMINGTON DISPLAYS - Part 1

The proceeding at the Convention in Leamington were notable because of the two outstanding displays of material shown by John Griffiths and Geoffrey Osborn.

John Griffiths showed material from his award winning Leeward Islands collection and Geoffrey Osborn showed selected sheets from his collection of Bermuda.

The afternoon display by Geoffrey Osborn began with selected maps of the island, an invoice for Bermuda oranges of 1664, two seamens letters with GB 1d reds from Bermuda to the UK, one officers letter per ship bag to the UK with 6d violet and two Bermuda newspapers with Hamilton postmarks (PM4 of 1858 and H1 of 1883).

Then followed a selection of pre-adhesive covers including 1846 ship letter, forwarding agents marks, handstruck 4d and 6d of Ireland Island, a blockade runner cover of 1863 from Wilmington via Bermuda, Halifax, Boston to Missouri which enclosed instructions of how to reply by the same route.

The next series of items to be shown were selected postmarks of the island on single stamps of the Queen Victoria Issues.

Various covers were then shown of the Queen Victoria issues, these included one to New Zealand, a manuscript postmark of J.D. Wainwright, P.O. Keeper at Warwick Central, one to Gibraltar, a disinfected letter, possibly unique.

Next displayed were letters from the Western Hemisphere sent via forwarding agents between Halifax and Baltimore, followed by letters from the U.K. by packet to Bermuda, pre-adhesive and with stamps at various rates to 1898 1d rate.

The display concluded with a selection of letters from West Indies and other countries to Bermuda, all pre 1900.

A vote of thanks was given by Dennis Mitton who commented on the quality of the Items displayed. The members present agreed in these sentiments and showed their appreciation in the usual manner.

ADDITIONS TO LIBRARY

Sect. Ref.	Title		Location
9.3.23	BRITISH WEST INDIES - Barbados and St Vincent - R.W.Lloyd and Trinidad - Dr. A.Reid	Robson Lowe;	18-11-59
9.3.24	* BURRUS - Antigua, Dominica, Gambia, Ceylon, Labuan, St. Kitts, St.Lucia and St.Vincent	Robson Lowe;	03-04-63
9.3.25	* BURRUS - New Zealand, Bahamas, Bermuda, Cyprus and Hong Kong	Robson Lowe;	23/24-07-63
9.3.26	* BURRUS - K.U.T., Malaya, Transvaal and Trinidad	Robson Lowe;	10/11-03-64
	'Rarity and Beauty: the Magic of West Indian Stamps' by Giorgio Migliavacca	LIAT Islander - May 1995	

Derek Nathan

MEMBERSHIP LISTING

NEW MEMBERS

Hambro, M.
Humphrey, E.D.
McMahon, T.J.
Mead, M.E.
Pattiz, H.A.
Schofield, T.F.
Seaman, R.
Runge, P.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Ashley, W.B.
Brooks, Rev. P.
Duggleby, C.V.A.
Spratt, S.
Swarbrick R.V.

Walker, B.

RESIGNED

Mackay, A.J. Rudge, A.J.B. Wynn, G.

ANTIGUA

After reading M. Michel Bilhaut's appeal for information on the handstamp "PRINCESS ALICE / APPEAL" in Bulletin No.164 of March, 1995, I looked out my two examples of a very similar boxed handstamp viz. "GIVE TO THE / PRINCESS ALICE APPEAL" used in the previous year.

My examples are to an address in Antigua on 6 AP 55 with stamps to the value of 6 cents and to the U.S.A. on 5 MY 55 with a 12 cents stamp.

Sadly, I am old enough to remember that there was a serious hurricane in the West Indies in I think, late 1954 or early 1955. At that time Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone was Chancellor of the University College of the West Indies which had a special relationship with the University of London, where the Earl of Athlone was then the Chancellor.

Certainly an appeal was made to members of the University of London, students, staff and members of Convocation at that time, but I cannot say whether this was the same appeal to which Princess Alice lent her support.

I have not seen any previous suggestion that anything was added to postage for the appeal, and have always assumed that the handstamp served merely as an advertisement to remind possible overseas donors of the need.

Stella M. Pearse.

“DOMINICA” SCOOPS AWARD AT SINGAPORE ‘95

It gives me great pleasure to announce that the book “DOMINICA - Its Postal History, Stamps and Postal Stationery to 1935” by Victor Toeg, our President, has been awarded a Large Silver at SINGAPORE ‘95 and also a Small Silver Gilt Medal at AUTUMN STAMPEX ‘95. Also, at STAMPEX, it was awarded the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group Award. I’m sure that all members will join me in congratulating Victor on these awards and once he has fully recovered his health, we can, I’m sure, look forward to Volume 2.

Peter Ford

FOR SALE

Two second-hand copies of “DOMINICA - Its Postal History, Stamps and Postal Stationery to 1935” by Victor Toeg. Both as new at a much reduced price - only £24 each plus £3.15 post and packing. Contact Peter Ford; address and phone number at front of Bulletin.

BRITISH GUIANA - DIAMOND JUBILEE ISSUE OF 1898
The "TWO CENTS" on 5c of 1899 - Variety "MISSING STOP"

This variety has been listed in the Stanley Gibbons Part I since 1906/7, and has been stated to occur on R9/5 (53rd stamp). Having tried to find a positional example for many years in the course of which I obtained three provable examples of R9/5 each with a perfect full stop I challenged the Catalogue Editor on the matter and after correspondence he very kindly raised the matter in his column in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* of March 1993 since his catalogue notes for 1906/07 were no longer extant. Neither of us received any response to his request for confirmation of the variety.

Over the time spent searching I have found some examples of a small or, indeed, very small stop. I turned up the following extract in the *American Journal of Philately* of 1899 p.352 "On one stamp in each sheet of 60 the period is said to be missing. In *Gibbons Monthly Journal* of 31st October 1902 SG conclude that the stop 'failed to print as we believe no such variety was found upon the sheets of this stamp" and in the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal* of December 1920 A.D.Ferguson commented "No stop. This is due to stop not being printed, most sheets showing slight traces of a stop". It is infuriating that none of these writers thought to give a sheet position.

A search of multiples of the overprinted stamps leads me to conclude that the variety arises on R2/3 (Stamp No.9) and started life as a raised full stop. From enquiries made I believe it probable that this stop was of the wrong fount, became clogged with ink and then damaged, resulting in the stamps overprinted after the damage had occurred showing only a very feint trace of a stop in a position higher than that where the stop would normally occur, the speck thus being ignored when considering whether or not the item examined was the Catalogue variety. e.g.

Small raised stop

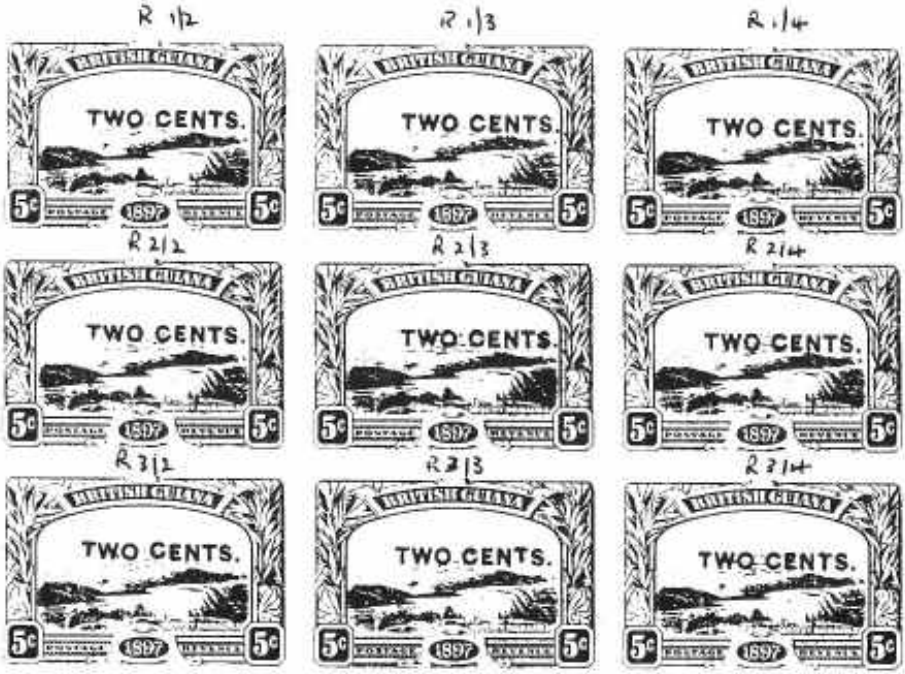
Raised stop

No stop

The third of the above examples failed to receive a Certificate from RPSL Ltd that it was the "missing stop" variety.

The offending stamp, if in a multiple, may be proved to R2/3 in a number of ways, depending upon the size of the block, strip &c of which it forms part. A few of the possibilities, working clockwise from above R2/3 are:

R1/3 T of TWO small (this is quite common in the sheet)
R2/4 T of TWO and E show signs of wear on some
R3/4 T of TWO small
R3/3 T of CENTS short, and stem thick
R3/2 T of TWO small (often slanted) and C raised
R2/2 T of TWO small (often slanted) W damaged at left
R1/2 T of TWO often slanted W damaged at left



I should be very interested to hear from anyone who can contradict my conclusion, failing which I suggest that SG 222a should be redefined as “Raised, or feint raised, stop”.

Michael Nicholson

B.W.I. PERFINS

I have long waited vainly for somebody to write with inspiration about perfins from the West Indies, and so lessen my ignorance. Nothing for it but to start the ball rolling myself.

I begin with the bold assertion that (disclaiming any knowledge for the period from 1937 onwards, and taking no account of Specimen imprints) there are very few BWI territories within which perfins will be met. Relying only on memory - for I am not a systematic recorder of fact - I can remember meeting no perfins from any of the following: Antigua, Bahamas, Barbuda, Bermuda, British Honduras (but see below), Cayman Is., Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Tobago, Turks Is. and Virgin Is.

The following, only, strike a chord:-

Barbados	Two examples of 1897 Jubilee ½d, perforated "L & Co."
British Guiana	KGV 2c red turns up occasionally with "B B & Co", clearly emanating from Booker Brothers.
Jamaica	United Fruit Company's "U F Co" is seen now and then on various stamps, characteristically KGV issues; and if Jamaica - why not British Honduras also? To hand are Jamaica's 4d, 1/- definitives; 3d War Stamp; 1½d pictorial.
Leeward Is.	"M C A" and "M C B" have been discussed previously in the Bulletin, and I have seen these on ½d and 1d values, as well as the 6d and 1/- from the first QV definitives. I am fairly happy with the ascription to Antigua's Magistrate's Court - although it was not till many years later that we replaced "Police Court" by "Magistrates Court" in Britain. I am less persuaded by the suggestion, A for Antigua, B for Barbuda, even though B is much less easily come by. May there not have been times when two courts were doing business in St. John's?
Trinidad	I have a 1922-8 1/- bearing part of a violet, elliptical Registrar General cachet, which one might have imaginatively ascribed to either (San Ferna)ndo or (Scarborough, Tob)ago: date is 1925, perforation a triple C, perhaps incomplete. A second example, with three C's differently orientated, and twice perforated CANCELLED, shows the lower legend to be "Trinidad & Tobago". Pride of place, however, goes to the 1898 Columbus issue,

postally used, perforated "W S & Co". It is hard to produce much variety of cancellation etc. with this stamp.

Will somebody please follow up with real information?

Simon Goldblatt

BARBUDA - The Missing Year 'Slug'

We know from both stamps and covers that the year when the year part of the date slug went missing was 1936 but I am not aware when in that year it first 'disappeared', nor if or when it was restored, let alone why it happened. In my collection there are 3 covers of the relevant period.

a) Antigua Silver Jubilee 1d block of 4 postmarked BARBUDA MR 16.

b) Registered cover (front) Antigua Silver Jubilee 1d, 1½d and 2½d postmarked BARBUDA AP 20 with '36' added in manuscript.

c) Registered cover Leewards Silver Jubilee set (4) postmarked BARBUDA JU 8.

If members who possess used Barbuda stamps and / or covers would check their (1936) dates to try to establish earliest dates with / without the year and also those with the added manuscript year, I shall be happy to collate the results and report back in a future bulletin.

Chris May

MORE MANUSCRIPT MARKINGS

M-m-m! In case my recent comment on Antigua S.P. (September Bulletin) has caused some to reflect, here is food for further thought. Commentary follows, because the illustrations will be less than clear.

(1)

Antigua 1d, cancelled 15=8=88. Echoes the deliberation, but not the handwriting, of the S.P. series, hence capable of being postal. What do you think?

(2)

Leeward 1d. This is a “proving item as the MY 2 94 c.d.s comes over 1/5/94 in manuscript. The writing is small, neat, slanting, spidery and horizontal: it may cause us to re-appraise markings of the period discarded as fiscal.

(3)

Leeward 1d cancelled “14/9/9(2?)”. Bears all the style of a standard village marking with St. Kitts or Nevis or Antigua, in that order, the obvious candidates. Or Dominica.... ?

(4) (5)

Nevis 1d, 17/5/76, 11/7/77. I have seen Nevis cancels that leave me doubtful: these two strike me as healthily postal, coming either from inland mail collected by the local constable or, if bound for abroad, used before the Crown Circle Paid mark was struck on the actual stamp. It is worth remembering that St. Kitts had been using this style for several years - the earliest example that I have seen being on SG1 dated 12/5/70.

(6)

St. Lucia ½d “D ./8/86”. No doubt one of a pair making up a 1d rate; and it was normal to have a composite marking across the two stamps. I have few twinges of conscience in ascribing this one to Dennery.

(7)

St. Lucia 1d “10/4/89”. No strong view is held about this cancellation: I leave it for the handwriting buff, armed with an adequate supply of covers.

Advert

FREDERICK P. SCHMITT

Advert

ARGYLL ETKIN LTD

Advert

CHRIS RAINEY

Advert

STAMP INSURANCES SERVICES

Advert

WILLARD S. ALLMAN

Advert

PETER SINGER

Advert

BRIDGER & KAY (GUERNSEY) LTD

Advert

Murray Payne Ltd

(8)

(8) Trinidad 2½d, cancelled 13/7/96. I am rather hooked by this one, as several villages will have held stamps up to 2½d value, while I can think of no reason why there should have been fiscal usage for a 2½d rate. There will be a limited number of candidates - offices recently opened, and yet to be supplied with a numeral killer or c.d.s. I do not favour manuscript cancel, with the numeral struck separately on cover - this is not in line with one's experience of Trinidad cancellations. Come to that, neither is a dated pen-cancel, I remind myself.

Simon Goldblatt

HAYLING ISLAND MEETING

On Saturday 23rd September the Circle held a meeting at 'HAMPEX' which this year was at the Hayling School, Church Road, Hayling Island.

The venue had considerable advantages over Ringwood, last years venue, not least in the much greater space for dealers, exhibits, refreshments and Society meetings. The event as a whole was very well attended, but unfortunately the same did not apply to our BWISC meeting which attracted only a handful of members (as compared to last year when there was standing room only).

This was particularly unfortunate as the displays of Bahamas Postal Stationery by Roy Coasby and Bermuda by Dennis Mitton were each comprehensive and of high quality deserving of a larger audience. In both cases, items of great rarity were on display and Roy and Dennis each took us through their display with knowledgeable comment and generated much interest. Whilst they were each thanked at the time, the gratitude of the Circle is due to these two members for their willingness to contribute with such good effect to a noteworthy 'philatelic' day. Next year, 'HAMPEX' is due to be held at Petersfield which may be rather more convenient to members in the Outer London area - the date is not yet finalised pending details of the 1996 Autumn 'STAMPEX' dates.

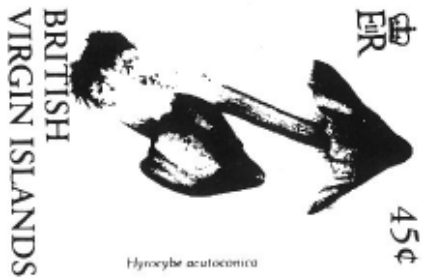
Chris May

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

The cover below was issued to commemorate the inaugural flight on April 17, 1986 between Beef Island / Tortola and Miami. To honour the event the BVI made a special overprint "MIAMI / B.V.I. / INAUGURAL FLIGHT" on the two 25c. and two 75c.stamps depicting H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

Five months later, in September 1986, the airline British Caribbean Airways went bankrupt.

On January 15, 1992, a set of four stamps and one souvenir sheet depicting fungi were issued by the BVI Postal Authorities. The 45 cents stamp features the *Hygrocybe acutoconica* - which prospers in fields, lawns and roadside in Europe as well as the Caribbean. The legend on the stamp has a clear misspelling error 'HYROCYBE' instead of the correct 'HYGROCYBE'.



Peter Runge

MONTSERRAT

With regard to the query from Mike Smith in Bulletin No.165 about the French Red Cross 1d. + 1d. issued in Montserrat, I can report that these are World War 1 Cinderella stamps produced in France in 1916/17.

More information can be obtained from an article entitled "Montserrat WWI Cinderella" by Charles E. Cwiakala published several years ago in a BCPSG magazine.

Chris Barwick

QUERY - TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

We have been asked by Bob Paterson, a member of the Reading Philatelic Society, if anyone can help him with regard to a stamp that he has.

It is a 60c. value from the first QE II definitive issue of Trinidad and Tobago and appears to have the correct watermark. The odd thing is that the paper on which it is printed seems to be thicker than normal - almost like a thin card. It has been suggested at one time that perhaps it was cut out from an item of postal stationery but the perforations are absolutely perfect so that suggestion does not hold much water.

The stamp has been used, but the postmark is not at all clear. Can anyone help with Bob's problem. He can be contacted at

LEEWARD ISLANDS

The flaw showing the angled bottom of the “L” and the “Shaved” left upright of the A of ISLANDS in all three printings of the 1d value of Edward VII is well known and positioned on Row 10 Stamp 2 of the left pane.

Along with many others I was under the impression that a new plate had been made for the Edward VII issues. However, I recently acquired a pair of the Queen Victoria 1d with the plate No.3 on the selvedge and there, plainly visible on the left hand stamp above the plate number, are the damaged “L” and “A” of ISLANDS.

It is quite evident that the plate for the Edward VII was not new and that the damage was done to the plate in the 3rd Victorian printing. I say this as I have a complete Plate 2 pane of the Victorian 1d and there is no evidence of the damage.

I would be grateful for any further information about the flaw. With regards to the provenance of the stamps - would you believe the BWISC Auction. How did our hawk eyed auctioneer miss this one!

Mike Spaven

LEEWARD ISLANDS KG.V 2d FLAW

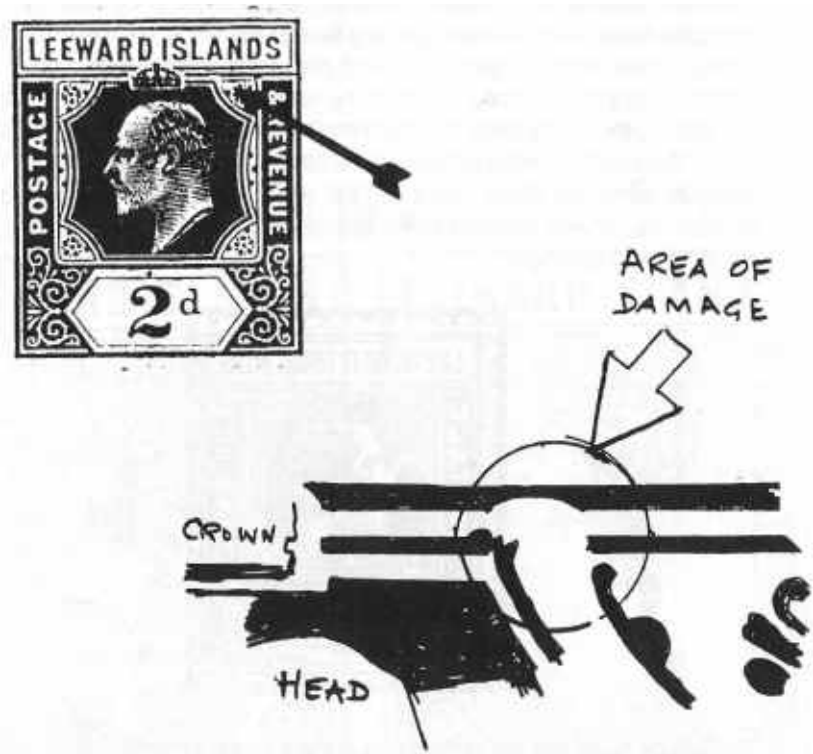
The frame break on the value tablet illustrated below is one of the better Leewards duty plate flaws. I obtained a single copy several years ago, but it was not until Tony Farmer showed me a complete sheet from plate 8 that I was able to position it to row 7 stamp 2 on the right pane. These are the only two copies I have seen. After the Pl.8 printing there were three further printing from Pl.10 and four from Pl.11, the last in 1926. There were no more printings of the 2d until the first KG.VI printing in 1938 (using the same duty plate). As far as I can determine the flaw was no longer present by then. Has anyone seen this variety any earlier than the 1920 Pl.8 printing, or on the Pl.10 or 11 printings?

It should be noted that this variety is not present on the left pane, a clear indication that the duty plate was 120 set size. It is yet another example of the point I made in Bulletin 155 (December 1992) that the original 60 set duty plates made in 1890 were at some point increased to 120 set, but that the confirming die proof in this case has yet to come to light.

Peter Fernbank

LEEWARD ISLANDS

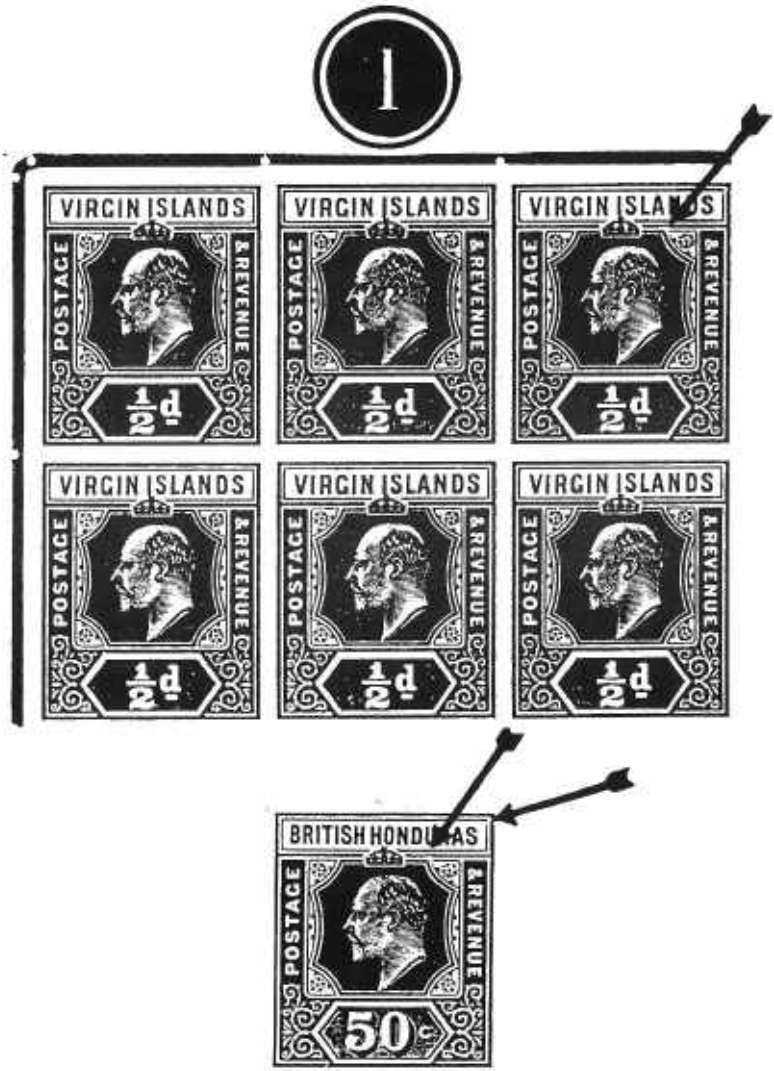
When looking through some Leeward Islands stamps I noticed what appeared to be major damage to the Edward VII head plate. The damage took the form of a curve in the frame line to the right of the Crown, a spur on the corner of the outer frame surrounding the head and a break in the corner of the frame surrounding the ‘rosette’ on the right. The damage viewed as a whole looks as though it could have been made by a sharp point having struck the plate.



I then wondered if, as it was the key plate, the damage existed on any other values. On going through my Edward VII collection, I found that I had the identical damage on the 1902 - ½d, the 1905-8 - ½d and 2d and the 1907-11 - ½d, 2½d and 3d.

The 1907-11 3d was in a block of four of which the damaged stamp was the top left of the block. As the block had selvedge this proved that the stamp was in row 1 but as there was no plate number I could not position it.

These ‘finds’ led me to wonder if, as the same head plate had been used for all Colonies with Edward VII key plate stamps, the damage existed in any other Colonies. Searching through dealers stock books has so far enabled me to find the damage on a Cayman Islands 2½d, Sierra Leone ½d, British Honduras 1c and 50c and Virgin Islands ½d. The Virgin Islands ½d and the British Honduras 1c being both Plate 1 blocks from the left pane and show, in both cases, the damage to be on stamp 3 of row 1.



Can anyone tell me more about the damaged key plate and do any members have other values than those mentioned above on which it occurs? I am particularly interested in the stamps of Leeward Islands as I have it on all 3 printings.

Another interesting feature of the stamp is the broken frame of the name tablet in the top right hand corner which is constant on all the copies that I have.

Mike Spaven

JAMAICA - CAMP GIBRALTAR Registration Label.

Gibraltar Camp, sited at Mona on the outskirts of Kingston, housed evacuees from Gibraltar during World War II from Oct 1940. Some of its hutments still remain as part of the University of the West Indies.

Various Orderly Room handstamps were originally used in conjunction with a Kingston DR datestamp to cancel mail. In May 1943 a Post Office was opened with its own Birmingham type B2 cds for GIBRALTAR CAMP. Sutcliffe states a registration label for GIBRALTAR CAMP was issued at this time.

Registered mail from Gibraltar Camp is rarely seen. Thomas Foster in Stamp Collecting Jamaica News Letter No. 4 Dec 1969 writes “A registered cover dated Jul 3 1942, carries a registration label inscribed GIBRALTAR CAMP, the first I have ever recorded and this is a startling find”. I have seen two examples myself in dealers stocks over the past ten years and two more are illustrated in the comprehensive article on Gibraltar Camp in the Gibraltar Study Circle’s Newsletter No.17 in Spring 1979.

The Official Free cover in my possession dated Oct 18 1943 shows a label in which GIBRALTAR and CAMP are transposed so the label reads CAMP GIBRALTAR.

The format CAMP GIBRALTAR was used in the very rare earliest orderly room handstamp but everything subsequently was GIBRALTAR CAMP.

Has any member come across a CAMP GIBRALTAR registration label?

David Atkinson

RARE STAMPS OF THE WORLD SHOW

Some of the rarest stamps and philatelic material ever shown in one room were brought together at an Exhibition held in Claridge's London between 6th and the 8th July 1995. Exhibits were gathered together from around the world. The exhibitors were presented with a specially bound copy of the exhibition handbook as well as a Silver Medal at a cocktail party held in their honour.

One of the 'Invited Exhibits' was by one of our members, Frank Deakin, who showed part of his Barbados collection. His exhibit was of 32 sheets of material in two frames and was located in the ballroom.

Frank began his exhibit with items from the 1852-55 issue, showing used Britannias on blue and white paper and the bisected 2d stamp of 1854 on cover and on a large dated piece. The 1860 used pin perfs. appeared with both perfs. the mint copies being particularly difficult to find. Of the long 1861-70 series which followed, items included a block of 63 of the ½d in the blue-green shade, 3 pairs in imperf. state of the 7 listed; and the 1d imperf. in a block of 16, probably the largest known of this rare stamp. These imperf. pairs and larger multiples came on the market as a result of the "Great Find" in 1887 of the Perkins Bacon remainders.

A very small "2" in the top margin of a mint ½d demonstrated the change of printing plates in 1866, and the 1/- appeared as an imperf. between pair. Mint copies of the 1872 Small Star clean-cut perf. 14½-15½ came next with two stamps perf. 11-13 x 14½-15½, followed by, from 1873, two Plate Proof blocks of 20 of the ½d and the 3d values, and a page of Die and Plate Proofs, including some blocks. The large 5/- as a Maroon Proof pair was only bettered by a mint, unsevered pair of the Provisional 1d.

The 1892 Essays covered three colourful pages followed by the "Olive Blossom" Die Proof in the colour of the issued stamp. 1912 Proofs from the De La Rue Records Day Book led to the Composite Artists Proof of the 3/-: Plate Proof Pairs of the set in normal colours preceded the coloured Die Proofs (1916) and finally the 1920 "Victory" coloured Plate Proof pairs dwarfed the lovely hand-painted Essay of 1921. These selected pages from, as Frank states, his expanding collection along with the other exhibits contributed towards an excellent show of some of the worlds rarities.

B.W.I. AUCTION - No. 21

Material accepted for inclusion in the Auction will be offered for sale on the following terms:-

1 All lots may be sold with or without reserve and the seller may participate in the bidding either himself or by an agent.

2 The buyer to be the highest bidder.

3 Wherever possible the description of a lot will include an estimate by the Circle of the price which it is expected to realise, and the lot will not be sold without the consent of the seller at substantially below 75% of estimate.

4 The Auctioneer will be appointed by the Auctions Sub-Committee designated by the Circle to organise the Auction Sale. The bidding shall be under the control and at the sole discretion of the Auctioneer, who shall have power to settle all disputes and to reopen the bidding in the event of dispute. He may withdraw lots or group two or more lots together without assigning a reason.

5 The Auctioneer reserves the right to bid on behalf of sellers and prospective buyers but shall not be liable for any errors or omissions in executing instructions to bid.

6 Lots will be sold with all faults, imperfections and errors of description and the Circle cannot be held responsible for the genuineness of any lot or of an individual item therein. Where however the buyer within 14 days after receipt of a lot (or such further time as the Auctions Sub-Committee may allow) satisfies the Auction Sub-Committee that there is a substantial inaccuracy in the description and returns the lot in unaltered condition, the sale of that lot will be rescinded and the purchase price refunded to the buyer less any costs and expenses incurred by the Circle in connection with the sale.

7 The Circle will have a lien for all charges on all lots sold or unsold. Payments for lots purchased (including collection charges where payment is made in local currency) shall be made by the buyer before delivery, which shall be at the risk of the buyer and shall include cost of postage and registration where sent by post If the buyer does not pay for any lot within such period as the Auction Sub-Committee (in their sole discretion) may consider reasonable the lot may be re-sold by the Circle in any manner the Circle see fit and the buyer shall pay the difference between his bid price and the net realisation on re-sale (after deduction of commission and other attendant expenses) but the buyer shall not be entitled to any surplus arising on re-sale. A buyer resident in the dollar area must pay for lots bought either in dollars at the controlled rate of exchange with the addition of £1.50 to cover collection charges or by draft drawn on London.

8 Sale Commission charged to the seller will be:-

On each lot sold: 10p on the first £1 or lower realisation, thereafter 10%.
On each lot unsold: 10p.
On each lot withdrawn by the seller: sale commission on 75% of the estimated value.
On each lot unsold through failing to reach the seller's reserve: sale commission on the reserve price.

These conditions apply as between buyer and/or seller and every officer member and agent of the Circle concerned on behalf of the Circle with any aspect of the Auction Sale.

Further Information:

a All correspondence please to SIMON GOLDBLATT, 39 ESSEX STREET, LONDON WC2.

b Do not send any material for sale UNLESS it can be sent as an ordinary letter. For all bulkier items write to Simon Goldblatt first to find out whether these can be accepted.

c Stamps and Postal history items are equally welcome but, in the interest of both buyers and sellers, the Sub-Committee will not be accepting material for sale unless it has in their opinion some potential interest to members of the Circle.

d MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CATALOGUE FOR PUBLICATION IN THE MARCH 1996 BULLETIN MUST REACH SIMON GOLDBLATT BY 12TH JANUARY 1996 AT LATEST.

e The Auction Sub-Committee will be grateful for any specialised information which you include with your material for sale and for any personal assessment of its value, although no undertaking can be given that the Auction estimate will coincide with your own assessment. Remember that the more care you yourself take with the selection of items for sale, the better the realisation to be expected.

f The Auction Sub-Committee will not be responsible for the loss of or damage to items in their custody but unless you instruct to the contrary your material for sale will, if practicable, be held insured while in the hands of the Sub-Committee and the small cost will be divided rateably between the sellers.

g Please DO NOT write asking for lots to be sent for viewing by post, as the Auctions Sub-Committee are not equipped to offer this service. However, a "xerox" copy could be sent to you provided that with your request you enclose an S.A.E. together with an additional 32p stamp to cover cost.

AROUND THE CARIBBEAN

BERMUDA - Commemorative Stamp Issue - 375th Anniversary of Parliament

Release date: 3rd November 1995
Values:- 25c, $1 Arms
Design: Sheila Semos
Printer: J. Enschede Security Printers
Process: Lithography
Stamp size: 42.00 x 27.55mm
Stamps per sheet: 50 (2x25)
Paper: CA. Spiral

BERMUDA - Commemorative Stamp Issue - Military Bases - Release date: 4th Dec. 1995.

20c Ordnance Island Submarine Base 25c Royal Naval Dockyard
50c Fort Bell and Kindley Field 75c Darrell's Island
99c US Navy Operating Base $1.00 Canadian Forces Station at Daniel's Head
Design: Ross Watton Printer: Walsall Security Printers
Process: Lithography Stamp size: 28.45 x 42.58mm
Stamps per sheet: 50 (2x25) Paper: C.A. Spiral

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

All the following are available from Peter Ford, 28 Orchard Close, Hall Weston, St. Neots, Cambs. PEI9 4LF

All orders must be prepaid. Prices quoted are retail and include postage and packaging.
Discounts to members are given in brackets and apply to STERLING prices only.
Unless stated otherwise ALL despatches will be sent by SURFACE MAIL.
Make sterling cheques/ P.O's payable to "B.W.I,S.C."

Note: U.S. members paying in U.S. dollar cheques MUST be made payable to "B.W.I.S.C." and sent with order to Clary Holt, P.O. Drawer 59, Burlington, NC27216.

PUBLICATIONS

"INDEX TO BULLETINS Nos. 1 - 100 of the BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE" compiled by E.V. Toeg. Softbound, 182mm x 120mm, 41 pp.
Price: UK, Europe (Air), and elsewhere overseas (printed paper rate) £5.50;
USA (Air printed paper rate) US - $9.50; (NO Discount).

"BARBADOS POST OFFICE MARKINGS TO 1981" by Clarke, Redford and Cave. Hardbound, Qto. 71 pp profusely illustrated. A limited numbered Edition.
Price: UK - £17.00; Europe and Overseas - £18.00; US - $30.00 (Members Discount £2.00).

"DOMINICA - Its Postal history, Stamps and Postal Stationery to 1935" by E.V. Toeg, F.R.P.S.L. Hardboard, A4, 216pp. Profusely Illustrated. A limited numbered Edition.
Price (including postage and packing - SURFACE mall for non-UK residents):
UK - £46.15; Europe & overseas - £46.68; US - $81.69. (No discount)

"THE LEEWARD ISLANDS ADHESIVE FEES STAMPS" by E.V. Toeg, F.R.P.S.L.
Price (including postage and packing - SURFACE mail for non-UK residents):
Members of BWISC - £14.00 (US $25.00)
Non Members of BWISC - £16.00 (US $30.00)
Trade terms provided on request.

BULLETINS AND BINDERS

BULLETINS - See separate fly sheet enclosed with the June 1995 Bulletin.
BINDERS -'CORDEX' Instantaneous Self-binders, A5 size, each capable of holding 20 issues of the Bulletin, hard cover, blue, spine entitled in Gold.
Price: UK - £5.50; Europe and Overseas - £6.00; US - $10.00 (All despatched Surface Mail). (NO Discounts).

PLEASE NOTE: Only the new A5 size Binder is now stocked. They will accept the old size Bulletin but old size Binders will only accept Bulletins up to and including Issue No.143.

Advert

HARMERS of LONDON